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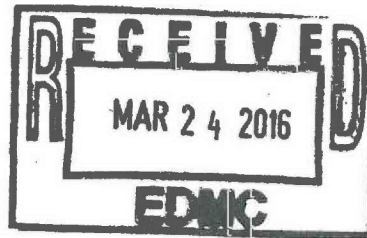
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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March 21, 2016

16-NWP-056

Ms. Stacy Charboneau, Manager  
Richland Operations Office  
United States Department of Energy  
PO Box 550, MSIN: A7-50  
Richland, Washington 99352



Re: Request for Temporary Authorization to Implement a Class 3 Modification for Closure of  
Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility (WESF) Hot Cells A through F

Reference: Letter 16-ESQ-0026, dated January 14, 2016, from Stacy Charboneau, USDOE  
to J. A. Hedges, Ecology, *"Revised Part A form and Closure Plan for Waste  
Encapsulation Storage Facility (WESF) Closing Dangerous Waste Management Unit  
(DWMU) and Temporary Authorization to Implement Previously Requested  
Class 3 Modifications"*

1235549

Dear Ms. Charboneau:

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) staff reviewed a request for a temporary authorization (TA) for the Class 3 permit modification to allow closure activities for Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility (WESF) Hot Cells A through F to begin (reference). We agree that your request satisfies the criteria in Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-303-830(4)(e)(ii). Pursuant to WAC 173-303-830(4)(e)(iii)(B)(III) and (V), Ecology agrees that this TA will prevent disruption of ongoing waste management activities, and will facilitate other changes to protect human health and the environment.

Ecology is partially approving this TA to allow the following activities to be conducted by the permittees:

- Site Preparation as detailed in Section H-A5.3 of the WESF Hot Cell A through F closure plan.
- Unit Modification and evaluation prior to stabilization as detailed in Section H-A5.4 of the closure plan.



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At this time Ecology is not authorizing the permittees to perform any stabilization or grouting activities for WESF Hot Cells A through F as detailed in Section H-A5.5 of the closure plan. Pursuant to WAC 173-303-830(4)(e)(i), Ecology is approving the TA activities described above for the full term of 180 days, effective March 31, 2016, through September 27, 2016.

The second public comment period for the WESF Class 3 draft permit modification will run from March 14 to April 27, 2016. The draft permit modification consists of permit conditions, Part A and closure plan. Ecology may revise the draft permit modification after review of public comments received during this comment period. The final permit modification decision will replace this TA and be incorporated in the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit, Dangerous Waste Portion, Revision 8C, for the Treatment, Storage, and Disposal of Dangerous Waste, WA7890008967.

If there are any questions, please contact Stephanie Schleif at [Stephanie.schleif@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Stephanie.schleif@ecy.wa.gov) or (509) 372-7929 or Mandy Jones at [mandy.jones@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:mandy.jones@ecy.wa.gov) or (509) 372-7916.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Dahl  
Tank Waste Treatment Section Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program

ss/jvs

cc see page 3

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cc electronic:

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Environmental Portal  
Hanford Facility Operating Record  
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Steve Hudson, HAB  
Administrative Record  
NWP Central Files  
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